

# DIME NOVEL ROUND-UP



A monthly magazine devoted to the collecting, preservation and literature of the old-time dime and nickel novels, libraries and popular story papers.

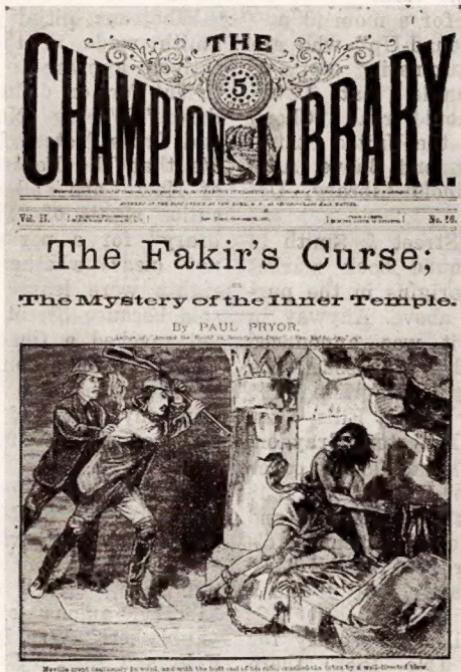
Vol. 39 No. 6

June 15, 1970

Whole No. 453

## The Boys' Own Library

By Denis R. Rogers



## DIME NOVEL SKETCHES NO. 126

### THE CHAMPION LIBRARY

Publisher: Champion Publishing Co., 194 William St., New York, N. Y. (Later issues show 22 & 24 North William Street as the address.) Dates: October 8, 1881 to October 21, 1882. Issues: 56 (highest number seen). Schedule of Issue: Weekly. Size: 11½x8½". Pages: 16. Illustrations: Black and white pictorial cover. Contents: A variety of novels including comic stories, stories of the frontier and world adventure. Some were reprints from THE BOYS CHAMPION, a story paper published by the same publisher.

## The Boys' Own Library

By Denis R. Rogers

In February 1900 (Publishers' Weekly No. 1462: 3 February 1900) Street & Smith of New York advertised that they had purchased portions of the lists of The American Publishers Corporation and The Cassell Publishing Company.

The American Publishers Corporation (1896 to 1897) had been formed to salvage the wreckage of the ill-fated attempt by Frank F. Lovell to rationalize the cheap book market of the late 1880's and early 1890's, but went bankrupt in its turn.

If I may digress for a moment any readers of "The Round-Up" who are interested in the fascinating story of the publishing jungle that Lovell failed to clear should read "Cheap Book Publishing in the United States, 1870-1891" by Raymond Shove, A.M. (University of Illinois Library, Urbana : 1937).

The decision of Street & Smith to enter the cloth bound book market may have had its origins in the purchases referred to above. Anyway in September 1901 it was announced that Street & Smith would issue "The Boys' Own Library," comprising 100 copyright titles by Alger, Ellis, Otis, Stables, Converse, Kingston, Graydon, Fenn, etc., with 15 different cover designs (Publishers' Weekly No. 1548 28 September 1901 : Literary and Trade Notes). Advertisements followed in November 1901 (Publishers' Weekly Nos. 1553 and 1554 : 2 and 9 November 1901).

Also in the Publishers' Weekly for 2 November 1901 (No. 1553) there appeared a description of the covers of "The Boys' Own Library," which stated that there were upwards of 20

different designs in colors and gold on colored cloth, with the edge of the pages colored to match the cloth and burnished. It was further reported that each author had his own cover design, thereby making "The Boys' Own Library" a series that could be sold in sets or singly.

On 1 February 1902 (Publishers' Weekly No. 1566 : Literary and Trade Notes) it was reported that Street & Smith were enlarging and elaborating their cloth-bound book department.

Whatever initial progress Street & Smith made in their new field of activity appears to have been insufficient for, on 4 June 1904, the Publishers' Weekly (No. 1688 : Literary and Trade Notes) informed its readers that The Federal Book Company of New York had secured the publication rights of "The Boys' Own Library" for a period of years. It is not clear whether the publication rights were leased instead of being sold because Street & Smith had not yet reached a final decision whether or not to abandon cloth book publishing or because The Federal Book Company just had not the financial resources to purchase and so had to rent.

The Federal Book Company was formerly The F. M. Lupton Publishing Company, having been renamed to avoid confusion with F. M. Lupton, publisher of the popular Armchair Library, among other cheap series (Publishers' Weekly No. 1568 : 15 February 1902 : Business Notes).

The Federal Book Company did not last long for, on 10 February 1906 the Business Notes section of "The

DIME NOVEL ROUNDUP—Vol. 39, No. 6, Whole No. 453, June 15, 1970  
Published monthly at 821 Vermont St., Lawrence, Kansas 66044. Edited by Edward T. LeBlanc, 87 School St., Fall River, Mass. 02720. Second class postage paid at Lawrence, Kansas. Assistant Editor, Ralph F. Cummings, 161 Pleasant St., South Grafton, Mass. 01560. Subscription: \$3.00 per year. Ad Rates—9c per word, \$1.50 per column inch; \$3.25 per quarter page, \$4.50 per half page and \$7.50 per page. Ads should be submitted by the 15th of the month in order to assure publication in the following month's issue.

"Publishers' Weekly" No. 1776) recorded the fact that The Federal Book Company was closing out its publishing business. Although it is really outside the scope of an article on "The Boys' Own Library" it is perhaps worth mentioning that, in December 1910, a Mr. Charles H. Hodge was elected president of The F. M. Lupton Publishing Company (Publishers Weekly No. 2030 : 24 December 1910 : Business Notes). I can only assume from that announcement that, at some time between 1906 and 1910, F. M. Lupton, publisher, had had a name change to that originally used by the defunct Federal Book Company.

In April 1910 a public offer was made to sell the electrotype plates and stock on hand of various Lupton publications, including The Armchair Library (Publishers' Weekly No. 1996 Notes). Then on 8 October 1910 the "Publishers' Weekly" (No. 2019 : Obituary) reported the suicide of Frank M. Lupton (born 21 February 1854). : 30 April 1910 : Literary and Trade Whatever caused Lupton to take his own life it was not money for an article in the "Publishers' Weekly" for 12 November 1910 (No. 2024) made the point that Frank M. Lupton had died a millionaire.

It looks as if the life story of Frank M. Lupton could be of absorbing interest and I hope that an enterprising member of our Brotherhood will carry out the necessary research and then provide our editor with an article for publication in "The Round-Up."

Even if Street & Smith had not made up its mind about cloth book publishing in June 1904, a decision had been reached by February 1906 because, only two weeks after announcing the end of The Federal Book Company, the "Publishers' Weekly" (No. 1778 : 24 February 1906 : Literary and Trade Notes) reported that David McKay of Philadelphia had purchased "The Boys' Own Library" from Street & Smith.

I am in some doubt about the titles published in "The Boys' Own Library" for the following reasons:

(1) the hundred titles listed in the

Street & Smith catalogue which appeared in The Publishers' Trade List Annual for 1902 do not agree with the hundred titles listed at the back of a copy of "Check No. 2134" by Edward S. Ellis in the Rogers Collection.

(2) no copies of the Publishers' Trade List Annuals after 1905 are held by the British Museum here in England and the only other research material available to the writer of this article has been a few copies of "Boys' Own Library" editions of titles by Edward S. Ellis in his possession.

(3) this brief article is no more than a by-product of the writer's research towards a bibliography of Edward S. Ellis and he has had neither the time nor the inclination to delve more deeply. It was written as an appetizer, so to speak, for the many Street & Smith and Merriwell enthusiasts in our Brotherhood, in case one or more of them would care to use it as a basis for a really definitive article on what is an interesting library.

On (1) I can say that no less than twenty-five of the hundred titles were involved. In the listing by author of the titles known to me to have been recorded as appearing at one time or another in "The Boys' Own Library," which follows this article, those titles which appeared only in the advertisements of Street & Smith are listed without markings. Street & Smith later issued some of the titles in other series replacing those so changed with additional titles.

Only one of the twenty-five replaced titles ("Jud and Joe" by Gilbert Patten) was published by The Federal Book Company in "The Boys' Own Library," but sixteen were published in other series, namely "The Boys' Popular Library" (the thirteen titles are distinguished in the author listing by the letter: a) and "The Girls' Popular Library" (the three titles against which the letter: b, has been placed). No record of Federal Book Company editions of the other eight titles has been found and also no record of a David McKay edition of any of the twenty-five titles, except "Jud and Joe," which they did

reprint in "The Boys' Own Library."

In the Federal Book Company catalogues "The Boys' Own Library" volumes are described as being illustrated, having covers stamped in inks and gold and selling at 75c each. 50c each was the selling price of the volumes in "The Boys' Popular Library" and "The Girls' Popular Library." Those books had covers stamped in colors.

When the Federal Book Company took over the publication of "The Boys' Own Library" their catalogues included all the titles shown in the Street & Smith P. T. L. A. catalogues or advertisements seen by me plus six more titles. The titles in question have been distinguished in the author listing by an: x.

As the six titles were of tales first published by Street & Smith the possibility is that they were either published or scheduled for publication in "The Boys' Own Library" before Street & Smith leased the publication rights to the Federal Book Company.

David McKay editions of all but three of the titles recorded as having been published in "The Boys' Own Library" by the Federal Book Company are also on record, plus fifteen titles not found in any Street & Smith or Federal Book Company catalogue or advertisement so far located. The fifteen titles are identified in the author listing by the letter: y. Again it is noticeable that the titles are of tales first published by Street & Smith and so the possibility occurs to me that Street & Smith's agreement with the Federal Book Company had provided for new titles to be leased from time to time. In that event the fifteen titles might well have been prospective additions to "The Boys' Own Library," which did not get published by the Federal Book Company before it went out of business.

The three titles referred to above were "Golden Rock" and "The Land of Mystery," both tales by Edward S. Ellis, and "With Boer and Britisher" by William Murray Graydon. For some unknown reason, about which I have been unable to formulate any

logical theory, the publication rights in the two Ellis titles appear to have been sold to Hurst & Company of New York instead of to David McKay. Just to complicate matters still more, however, a Street & Smith remainder text of "The Land of Mystery," bound up in a David McKay cover has been found. In the absence of any McKay catalogue or advertisement reference to "The Land of Mystery" I am inclined to think that that particular text was passed to the Philadelphia publisher by Street & Smith in error. In the absence of any evidence to the contrary it must be surmised that "With Boer and Britisher" was never reprinted in cloth binding after the Federal Book Company went out of business: that would not be altogether surprising seeing that the Boer War had long since ceased to be topical.

On (2) it is worth pointing out, I feel sure, that David McKay kept "The Boys' Own Library" in print until at least 1928. It is surely improbable that there were no deletions from or additions to the list of titles comprising the library over such a long period. Consequently the author listing which follows can not be regarded as exhaustive and it is to be hoped that some member of the Brotherhood who has access to a run of the Publishers' Trade List Annuals, which would almost certainly contain David McKay catalogues for each of the years between the purchase of the library from Street & Smith and its eventual closing out. There is a P. T. L. A. run in the Library of Congress and, doubtless, there are runs also in other important American libraries.

On (3) I would like to mention the covers used for "The Boys' Own Library." Interested readers will have noted that I have not tried to describe any of the twenty different designs referred to in the 1901 "Publishers' Weekly" description of "The Boys' Own Library." My personal interest in the library has been confined to the titles by Edward S. Ellis and so to one cover design, except perhaps for the Federal Book Company edi-

tions, since that firm may have used the different designs somewhat haphazardly. Maybe one of our experts on Street & Smith publications can do justice to the cover designs for us and our editor may be able to show us a few as "Round-Up" cover illustrations.

I have had few dealings with the secondhand book market in the U. S. A. for over ten years and so our editor may have to correct me when I suggest that, for the modest collector, who fancies just a taste of specialization, an attempt to complete a set of "The Boys' Own Library" would offer an interesting but not impossible search. Such a collection would build up to a most attractive bookshelf display and would provide a great deal of varied and excellent reading from not too close print.

In conclusion I had better make the point that no attempt was made to identify which by-lines were pseudonyms and which were the true names of the authors.

### Appendix

#### Author Listing of "Boys' Own Library"

##### WALTER AIMWELL

Clinton  
b Ella  
a Jerry  
b Jessie  
b Marcus  
Oscar  
a Whistler

##### HORATIO ALGER, JR.

Adventures of a Telegraph Boy  
y The Backwoods Boy  
Dean Dunham  
The Erie Train Boy  
The Five Hundred Dollar Check  
From Canal Boy to President  
From Farm Boy to Senator  
Mark Stanton  
Ned Newton  
A New York Boy  
Tom Brace  
Tom Tracy  
Walter Griffith  
The Young Acrobat  
C. B. ASHLEY  
Gilbert the Trapper

##### ANNIE ASHMORE

The Smugglers' Cave

##### Z. R. BENNETT

The Young Vagabond

##### CAPT. RALPH BONEHILL

Neka, the Boy Conjuror

The Tour of the Zero Club

##### WALTER F. BURNS

In the Sunken Lands

##### HARRY COLLINGWOOD

The Pirate Island

##### FRANK H. CONVERSE

The Gold of Flat Top Mountain

Happy-Go-Lucky Jack

An Heir to a Million

In Search of an Unknown Race

In Southern Seas

The Mystery of a Diamond

That Treasure

A Voyage to the Gold Coast

##### GEORGE H. COOMER

The Boy in the Forecastle

The Mountain Cave

The Old Man of the Mountains

##### WILLIAM DALTON

The Tiger Prince

The War Tiger

The White Elephant

The Wolf Boy of China

##### RICHARD DOWLING

a Catmur's Cave

##### EDWARD S. ELLIS

Arthur Helmuth

Check Number 2134

From Tent to White House

Golden Rock

The Land of Mystery

On the Trail of the Moose

Perils of the Jungle

The White Mustang

##### GEORGE MANVILLE FENN

Commodore Jack

The Dingo Boys

The Golden Magnet

The Grand Chaco

The Weathercock

##### ENSIGN CLARKE FITCH, U.S.N.

Bound for Annapolis

Cliff the Naval Cadet

The Cruise of the Training Ship

From Port to Port

A Strange Cruise

##### LIEUT. FREDERICK GARRISON,

U.S.A.

A Cadet's Honor

Off to West Point

On Guard

The West Point Rivals  
A West Point Treasure

**WILLIAM MURRAY GRAYDON**  
The Butcher of Cawnpore  
Campaigning with Braddock  
The Camp of the Snow  
From Lake to Wilderness  
In Barracks and Wigwam  
In Fort and Prison  
Jungles and Traitors  
The Rajah's Fortress  
The White King of Africa  
With Boer and Britisher  
The Cryptogram

**HEADON HILL**  
Spectre Gold

**BLANCHE WILLIS HOWARD**  
a A Battle and a Boy

**W. H. G. KINGSTON**  
a Dick Chevely  
a From Powder Monkey to Admiral  
a James Braithwaite  
a Mark Seaworth  
a Peter the Whaler  
a Peter Trawl

**HENRY HARRISON LEWIS**  
Centreboard Jim  
Ensign Merrill  
The King of the Island  
Midshipman Merrill  
Sword and Pen  
Valley of Mystery  
Yankee Boys in Japan

**LEON LEWIS**  
The Silver Ship

**LIEUT. LIONEL LOUNSBERRY**  
Cadet Kit Carey  
Capt. Carey  
Kit Carey's Prestige  
x Out with Commodore Decatur  
Randy the Pilot  
The Treasure of the Golden Crater  
Tom Truxton's Ocean Trip  
Tom Truxton's Schooldays  
Won at West Point

**BROOKS MCCORMICK**  
The Giant Islanders  
How He Won  
Nature's Young Nobleman  
The Rival Battalions

**WALTER MORRIS**  
Bob Porter at Lakeview

**LIEUT. MURRAY**  
Up the Ladder

**STANLEY NORRIS**  
Phil the Showman  
The Young Showman's Pluck

The Young Showman's Rivals  
The Young Showman's Triumph

**ALFRED OLDFELLOW**  
a Uncle Nat  
a The Way to Success

**LIEUT. JAMES K. ORTON**  
Beach Boy Joe  
The Last Chance Mine  
The Secret Chart  
Tom Havens and the White Squadron

**JAMES OTIS**  
Chased through Norway  
Inland Waterways  
Reuben Green's Adventures at Yale  
An Unprovoked Mutiny  
Wheeling for Fortune

**GILBERT PATTEN**  
The Boy Boomers  
The Boy Cattle King  
The Boy from the West  
Don Kirk's Mine  
Jud and Joe  
y The Rockspur Eleven  
y The Rockspur Nine  
y The Rockspur Rivals

**ST. GEORGE RATHBONE**  
Canoe and Camp-Fire  
x Chums of the Prairie  
The Gulf Cruisers  
Paddling under Palmettos  
The Rival Canoe Boys  
Shifting Winds  
x Sunset Ranch  
x The Young Range Riders

**VICTOR ST. CLAIR**  
x Cast Away in the Jungle  
x Comrades under Castro  
For Home and Honour  
From Switch to Lever  
Little Snap the Postboy  
Zig-Zag the Boy Conjuror  
Zip the Acrobat

**ARTHUR SEWELL**  
Gay Dashleigh's Academy Days

**CAPTAIN DAVID SOUTHWICK**  
Jack Wheeler

**GORDON STABLES**  
The Cruise of the Snowbird

**BURT L. STANDISH**  
y Frank Merriwell at Yale  
Frank Merriwell Down South  
Frank Merriwell's Bravery  
y Frank Merriwell's Champions  
Frank Merriwell's Chums  
y Frank Merriwell's Courage

y Frank Merriwell's Daring  
 Frank Merriwell's Foes  
 y Frank Merriwell's Hunting Tour  
 y Frank Merriwell's Loyalty  
 y Frank Merriwell's Races  
 y Frank Merriwell's Return to Yale  
 Frank Merriwell's Schooldays  
 y Frank Merriwell's Secret  
 y Frank Merriwell's Skill  
 y Frank Merriwell's Sports Afield  
 Frank Merriwell's Trip West

**MATTHEW WHITE JNR.**

Adventures of a Young Athlete  
 Eric Dane  
 Guy Hammersley  
 My Mysterious Fortune  
 Three Thirty Three  
 The Tour of a Private Car  
 The Young Editor

**ARTHUR M. WINFIELD**

Mark Dale's Stage Venture  
 The Young Bank Clerk  
 The Young Bridge Tender

**GAYLE WINTERTON**

The Young Actor

**ERNEST A. YOUNG**

Boots, Bats and Bicycles

**DIME NOVEL COLLECTORS  
BOOK SHELF**

**OLD BOYS BOOKS, A COMPLETE CATALOGUE**, by W. O. G. Loftus and D. J. Adley. Available from W. O. G. Loftus, 56 Sheringham House, Lisson St., Marylebone, London, England. A listing of all the boys papers and libraries published in England from the earliest time to the most recent. Listing includes number issued and the dates of publication. Also included is a list of the comics and the annuals which were so popular in England. This is the most complete catalogue ever seen by your editor. Bound in cover stock with four illustrations.

**UNDER THE MOONS OF MARS.** A History and Anthology of "The Scientific Romance" in the Munsey Magazines, 1912-1920. Edited and with a History by Sam Moskowitz. Holt, Rinehart and Winston, Inc., 383 Madison Ave., New York, N. Y. 10017. \$7.95. 433 pages. Mr. Moskowitz gives a history of the pulps from the late 1890's to 1920 with a very de-

tailed account from 1912 forward. He traces many of the pulps to their dime novel origin. Although there are a few errors (Detective Story Magazine succeeded Nick Carter Stories, not Nick Carter Weekly) it does not detract from the excellent account of the early pulp publications. A must for dime novel and for pulp magazine collectors.

Back numbers Reckless Ralph's Dime Novel Roundup, Nos. 1 to 237, some reprints, 12 for \$1.00 or all for \$21. Sent postpaid. You also get Dime Novel Catalogue, Birthday No. 2, indexes, #1 Pioneer and Scouts of the West.

Can you beat it?

**Ralph F. Cummings**  
 161 Pleasant St.  
 So. Grafton, Mass. 01560

**OLD PULP MAGAZINES WANTED**

Such as Doc Savage, Shadow, Spider, Unknown, Phantom, Western Story, Wild West, G-8, Wings, "spicy" mags and many others in the all-fiction field. Must be in excellent condition. What have you? Send list and price wanted. No comics or books.

**Back Numbers**  
 Box 214, Little Rock, Ark. 72203

**FOR SALE**

Merriwell stories in Tip Top Weekly. Early and late numbers. Send want list; too many to catalog. Good condition and reasonable prices. Also, in clothbound first and later editions, stories by Sir Rider Haggard.

**GUINON**  
 Box 214, Little Rock, Ark. 72203

**FOR SALE**

Books by  
 Mary R. Rinehart  
 Edgar Wallace  
 E. Phillips Oppenheim

**Eli A. Messier**  
 Box 1122, Woonsocket, R. I. 02895

## MY VISIT WITH PAWNEE BILL

By Gerald J. McIntosh

It was a summer day in 1901 that a man in a hack pulled by a rather spirited team of horses came driving past the small farm house that sat back about 60 feet from the dirt road it faced. Round and round the yard raced a small boy on a stick horse.

That seven year old youngster was the writer of this tale.

The driver of the hack and team didn't come to a full stop, but he slowed down some as he threw out a small pamphlet in colors, saying at the same time, "Sonny, be sure and have your Dad bring you into town and see the show next week; you will see the Indians and Cowboys and have a lot of fun."

As the man drove on in a hurry I threw my "stick hoss" aside and lifting the iron ring attached to the gate that circled the post holding it shut ran out to pick up the small booklet. On the front cover was a picture of a man with mustache and long hair. He was wearing a big white hat and had on a buckskin coat. The words proclaimed him to be Major Gordon W. Lillie, or "Pawnee Bill." At the bottom of the cover a lady in western togs rode around in a circle pointing a long barreled gun. From horseback she was bursting glass balls in the air with her shots. These balls were thrown by a cowboy in woolly chaps who also wore a pistol at his side and she shattered these balls with ease. She was May Lillie, wife of Pawnee Bill, and one of the greatest woman shots of all time.

I feverishly looked through the book and was spell-bound in viewing the pictures in it. Scenes of cowboys roping wild steers, riding hard-bucking horses, picking up handkerchiefs from the ground while riding at full speed; and Indians in their colorful plains dress dancing a war dance, etc., and performing wonderful feats of horsemanship on the backs of their mounts. And many other feats and stunts that so aptly symbolized our wild west of the then not so recent past. A life so thrilling and dear to the youth of

that period—and still is. There was May Lillie again in another picture bursting those glass balls. And how she could "bust" them, with never a miss!

On the back cover of the booklet it was announced that the Wild West show of Pawnee Bill would give a performance in El Dorado on Thursday of next week, admission only 50c. This town, the county seat, was only six miles away but it might as well have been that many million miles so far as I was concerned. There was so little money in our home I couldn't have bought a stick of candy. And in "them days" at the country store nearby you could have gotten two small sticks for a penny. Certain it is I didn't see the show and Pawnee Bill at the time. The disappointment lingered on and on even to this day.

Thirty years is a long time, but after it has gone by to some of us it may seem that it was just a yesterday. Well, 1930 finally got here and while it was on the way I "grew up". In the long interim however I was well aware that the Pawnee Bill and Buffalo Bill shows were combined, this event taking place a few years after my great boyhood disappointment. Becoming known pretty well as the "Two Bills" Show, they were together for several years and finally dissolved partnership, Pawnee Bill more or less retiring to his ranch at Pawnee, Oklahoma, where his hobby was raising pure buffalo and increasing the herds. Before the dissolution of these two shows, almost every year they were almost in reach of me several times but I never managed to grasp them. They appeared in the big towns of Oklahoma time and again, but always something kept me from being able to see them, the principal reason being that I never had the dough to travel to the town where they were appearing, so I never got to see the big show. It was all very frustrating but I couldn't do anything about it. Buffalo Bill continued to appear in a sort of minor role in various other shows of the time about as long as he was able to sit in the saddle and in 1914 while he

was the principal attraction of the Sells-Floto Show I got to see him at Durant, Oklahoma, though I did not manage to talk to him. But I never saw Pawnee Bill in the circus.

In the summer of 1930 while knocking around Oklahoma on my vacation I determined to go by Pawnee where the old showman's ranch and famous Blue Hawk Peak Lodge is located and see the old Oklahoma "boomer" as he was called, not having been able to see him while he was on the road with his show. He had a trading post and souvenir stand on the Highway near his home and I headed for this place first. Luckily I found him in his place of business when I got there. I introduced myself and he seemed pleased to meet me. Learning I was very much interested in Western Americana, he just turned things over to his assistants and he and I spent some two hours or more talking about the things we held in common interest and he outdid himself in trying to give me any and all information I wanted. He was a very interesting and entertaining old fellow and very obliging and I was sorry to have to leave. I was hoping he would ask me up to see his home and all the interesting things western which he had, and also possibly meet his wife, May Lillie. But he didn't do so and I was polite enough not to ask him as I thought he might have felt I was trying to intrude on him too much. So I went on my way but before going he autographed several photos of him and his place of business for me and these I still have.

Some time after I had visited him I learned his trading post burned down and was a complete loss. A lot of valuable and irreplaceable items of western memorabilia went up in smoke. I know there were several copies of Beadles and other novels in which Pawnee Bill was a character were in the store because I had seen them in a show case the time I had visited the old fellow there.

In 1936 Pawnee Bill and May Lillie celebrated their Golden Wedding anniversary at Taos, New Mexico, and were presented with one of the best

known cars at that time on the market, latest model and design. After a round of celebrations and feastings with the Indians and show and frontier-minded folks of the area, many of whom Lillie knew personally, he and May Lillie his wife started for their Oklahoma home and ranch in the new car. They had gotten through Oklahoma City and were within a few miles of their home at Pawnee when a terrible tragedy overtook them. Blinded by the lights of a fast car approaching them, Pawnee Bill crashed into the oncoming car. His wife was fatally hurt, dying within a few hours, Bill, himself being pretty badly hurt. He was never quite the same again and this accident with the complications of old age was hard for him to bear. He died in 1942 and his death was recorded in our Round-Up Magazine No. 114, March, 1942.

Some two or three years before Pawnee Bill died I was again in a party that visited his ranch. We drove around the place quite a bit, seeing the herd of buffalo kept there and mingled with some of the Pawnee Indians that are in the area. We were at the large house of the Major but were not permitted to enter. The old man was quite ill. I asked the nurse if my son about ten years old could see him, but she refused me saying he was not able to have visitors.

Several months back I had the pleasure of reading a book on the life of Pawnee Bill and May Lillie. It was a good biography and told fully of his early life and of the experiences of he and his wife while in the wild west show business. Lillie had much to do with the opening up and early development of Oklahoma and the State owes him much. A bust of him is in the Hall of Fame of Oklahoma at the offices of the Oklahoma Historical Society in the State Capital Building of Oklahoma. He was a great man. This book was by Glenn Shirley and he is a member of our Round-Up. Perhaps Mr. Shirley at some future time can give us something more on Pawnee Bill. This book contains a partial list of the dime novels in which Pawnee Bill was a char-

acter with illustrations of the front covers of some of them.

I am glad that before all the characters of real people in the flesh appearing in dime novels passed on I had the opportunity and pleasure of personally meeting and shaking hands with one of them.

One of the photos Pawnee Bill autographed for me was that famous double picture of he and Buffalo Bill together, the one used so much on the advertising billboards of their show, and the one that appeared at the tops of front covers of the New Buffalo Bill Weekly and on the mast-head of page one of the stories. I would like to see it published in the Round-Up Mag., but I guess the cost would be prohibitive.

Thus ends the story of my pleasant visit with Pawnee Bill. There won't be any more like him.

#### **RECENTLY PUBLISHED ARTICLES CONCERNING DIME NOVELS**

**AMERICAN BOOK COLLECTOR.**  
March-April 1970. W. B. Thorsen, Pub., 1822 School St., Chicago, Ill. 60657. **TANBARK AND SPANGLES IN DIME NOVELS**, by J. Edward Leithead. In his continuing series, Mr. Leithead reviews the many dime novels that feature the circus and wild west shows in dime novels. Very well illustrated and as usual excellently written. Price \$1.00.

**COLLEGE & RESEARCH LIBRARIES NEWS** No. 4, April 1970. An announcement is made of the gift of dime novels made to **NEW YORK UNIVERSITY'S** rare book collection by Edward G. Levy of Woodbridge, Conn. Mr. Levy is an avid dime novel collector and long time subscriber to the Dime Novel Roundup. (Sent in by John T. Dizer.)

#### **NOTE**

With the May issue, a bibliographic listing of New Buffalo Bill Weekly was enclosed gratis to all subscribers. I expect to issue a listing at least once a year. Extra copies are available at \$2.00 each.

#### **LETTERS TO THE EDITORS**

Dear Mr. LeBlanc: Here is my check for \$3.00 in payment for the Dime Novel Roundup for another year. I enjoy reading the articles, comments and ads. The article "Horatio Alger, Jr., After Seventy Years," by Morton Enslin was enjoyed very much. It happens I have a copy of Jack's Ward which I have not read, I may offer it for sale after I have read it. It is a good copy, printed by Burt. Best wishes: Walter E. Brown, Cresson, Pa.

Dear Mr. LeBlanc: I am looking for a copy of Nick Carter Weekly No. 676 "Behind the Mask." This issue has a story laid in New Orleans with a full page illustration in full color picturing a Mardi Gras scene. Would you be good enough to advise me if you have a copy of this issue for sale and the price. Ray Samuel, 321 St. Charles Ave., New Orleans, La. 70130 (Can any one offer Mr. Samuel a copy of his wants?)

#### **NEWSY NEWS**

**By Ralph F. Cummings**

I understand the first issue of the Captain Marvel Comic is worth \$150 if you can get it. It isn't everybody that has that kind of money to spare for an old comic book that came out in the early 30's.

A Penny Dreadful isn't a book of that title, but a general expression to the old Penny Number Romances of the 60's or there abouts.

Ada M. Howard under her own name of Maud A. Hilton and Mrs. Wayne and M. T. Calder were one and the same person. Wayne is the right name, so I understand.

Rev. Roland D. Sawyer, age 95, formerly of Ware, Mass., died up in Kensington, N. H. Oct. 10th, 1969. He once was a collector of the old Beadies Dime and Half Dime Libraries—I wonder what he ever did with them. He is no. 70 in the January 1970 Roundup list. When he lived in Ware, 47 years or so ago, he was a Ware minister (1909) who served in the

Massachusetts House of Representatives, and in the 1920's he played a leading role in the infamous Sacco-Vanzetti case, and a few years later won renown as the Legislator Champion of Alfred E. Smith candidacy for president.

Ernest P. Sanford says that the Henty Bibliography will be published in London at around \$15.00—it is now 1970 and I haven't heard any more about it. It will be a good idea to check up on it, any one that's interested. Ernest also says he has a nice set of the M. J. Ivers & Co. Deadwood Dick Library nos. 1 to 64 inc. These are very scarce, as you know. Says ne'll take \$65.00 for this rare set.

Charles Jonas used to say that dime booklets published by Beadle and other publishers were the most valuable of all novels. If Charles was still living today, I know he would still be running his column of Novel Nut Nonsense—as he sure got a kick out of giving every one a laugh. Poor old Charlie, how he did suffer with the sickness he had, and still enjoyed to write his column.

J. P. Guinon wrote many a letter in the old Tip Top Applause columns in the days gone by, and Gerald J. McIntosh loved to write about them.

So far, there have been over 45 pocket books printed on Nick Carter at 60 cents each. He was a very popular detective in the old days, and as of now.

Gus Krause displays some of the membership cards, hats, pins and other badges and insignia that rate him the title of Chattanooga's greatest oner. There was a very fine full page article on him in the August 17, 1969 issue of the Chattanooga News Free Press. The Happy Hours Brotherhood is also one of the amny things he is a member of.

H. O. Jacobsen wants a copy of any Diamond Dick story in the Nugget Library. He is also after other novels too. He wants to know who wrote the stories in both Young Glory and Yankee Doodle.

Stanley A. Pachon says that Wm. B. Poage that died March 25, 1969, was mostly a Henty collector and en-

thusiast, and he had one of the best Henty collections in existence. Bill was also interested in Ellis, especially the Indian stories down in Florida, with a Florida background.

George Sahr says his mother used to read the Family Story Papers years ago.

Clyde F. Wakefields grandfather used to love to read the Beadles Saturday Journals, as well as Beadles Dime Libraries too.

W. R. Johnson from out Oklahoma way, had a very nice article such as it is, in the Oklahoma Orbit, published May 10, 1964, on oil novels. He has a picture in it of Work & Win #439—Fred Fearnott and Pittsburg Pete. His article was on "Exciting Books That Boys Used to Read."

Lou Kohrt asks if I knew that the New Tip Top Weekly had new stories of Motor Mat that were not in the Motor Mat Stories novels. Also that Motor Mat was Frank Merriwell Jr. Chum in the F. M. Jr. stories.

He has some of them, also the note of Burt Standish, stating he was going to change to another young fellow, namely Motor Mat. Called Clancy.

James Can De Mark says he has known Bob Frye of Schenectady, N. Y. for a good many years. He says Bob is a very fine fellow. I know, as I met him some years ago, also Jim too, both very nice fellows to know. Jim wants nos. 1 and 2 of Good News also #99 of Diamond Dick Jr. Weekly. Can you help him to get these numbers?

Charles F. Westbrook of Spokane, Wash., thinks many a time of the old days when he first joined the H. H. Brotherhood back in the early 1930's. Says he sold some old timers at that time, such as Liberty Boys at 76 at 35c each, James Boys at \$1.25, and so on. He says now, that the James Boys sell at \$6 and \$8 each. I guess the old days are gone.

Wallace H. Waldrop is on the hunt for all around weeklies. Any one have any for sale or ???

Carl Linville says he has a lot of Tip Top Weeklies to sell—anyone interested.

There was a fine center spread in the May 1934 issue of Judge magazine on hobbies. There were 3 illustrations of Old Sleuth Weekly #200 Liberty Boys of '76 #344 and Beadles Dime Speaker Series on little folks. The other illustrations were on old cigarette cards, arrowheads, tokens, and what-nots.

We all sure lost a great friend when Wm. H. Gander died, age 67, at his home up in Transcona, Manitoba, Canada, July 28, 1966. Bill used to publish "The Story Paper Collector," on the old British boys novels and papers. He also had a nice collection of same. We all that knew him, sure do miss him.

### MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

- 318. Matthew A. Hartigan, 321 Harrison Ave., Westfield, N. J. 07090 (New)
- 319. Frank Monahan, 6378 Woodbine Avenue, Philadelphia, Pa. 19151 (New)
- 320. Otto Cruys, 588 Grandview Ave., Ridgewood, N. Y. 11237 (New memb.)
- 321. Carl H. Edmonds, 4186 E. 47th St., Tulsa, Okla. 74135 (New member)
- 322. Carl W. Breihan, 4939 Mattis Road, St. Louis, Mo. 63128 (Former mem.)
- 280. Paul G. Brewster, Route 8, Cookeville, Tenn. 38501 (New address)
- 228. Miss Thelma Toewe, c/o PPG Industries, Melting & Form Division, Creighton, Pa. 15030 (New address)
- 323. Charles T. Marsteller, 628 Hulmeville Road, Langhorne, Pa. 19047 (New)
- 316. Harold L. HILSS, 8 Pond Road, Walden, N. Y. 12586 (Correction of name)
- 324. William H. Oudeans, 2545 Narrows Drive, Apt. 3105 Tanara Villa, Tacoma, Washington 98406 (New member)
- 325. Richard McNama, 405 E. 4th St., West Liberty, Iowa 52776 (New mem.)

---

## FOR SALE

Back issues of the



17 volumes. 204 consecutive numbers, 238 through 442.

\$25.00 Post paid

Edward T. LeBlanc, 87 School St., Fall River, Mass. 02720

